

# Chieveley Parish Council

## Councillor's Code of Conduct

### April 2017

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#### 1 Introduction

This Code of Conduct ("this Code") was adopted by the Parish Council at its meeting on 11 April 2017 pursuant to the duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by Parish Councillors and others set out in the [Localism Act 2011](#) ("the Act").

#### 2 Gifts and Hospitality Protocol and Appendices

- 2.1 The [Parish Parish Councillors' Gifts and Hospitality Protocol](#) is an associated document to be read in conjunction with this Code.
- 2.2 [Appendix 1](#) contains definitions used in this Code and its Appendices (or identifies where they may be found). Within the electronic version of this Code defined words or phrases are hyperlinked for ease of reference (on the first occasion they appear): to the relevant definition within Appendix 1 or elsewhere within the Appendices as relevant; or to an external document (eg legislation).
- 2.3 [Appendix 2](#) contains the [Ten Principles of Public Life](#) ('the Nolan Principles').
- 2.4 [Appendix 3](#) gives guidance for declaring and registering interests.
- 2.5 [Appendix 3a](#) sets out the prescribed definitions relating to [Disclosable Pecuniary Interests](#).
- 2.6 [Appendix 3b](#) contains a flow chart relating to the declaration of interests.

#### 3 Application

- 3.1 This Code applies to Parish Parish Councillors and [Co-Opted Members](#) (eg whenever they are acting, claiming to act, or giving the impression they are acting in their [Capacity](#) as a Councillor or Co-Opted Member). Where a [councillor](#) is not acting with Capacity no breach of this Code is likely to occur.
- 3.2 It is a Councillor's or a Co-Opted Member's personal responsibility to comply with this Code.
- 3.3 This Code is consistent with and based upon the Ten Principles of Public Life (also known as the Nolan Principles).
- 3.4 Should a complaint be made against a Councillor or Co-Opted Member it will be dealt with in accordance with the Act and its supporting regulations by West Berkshire Council's Monitoring Officer.
- 3.5 If a Councillor or Co-Opted Member needs any guidance on any matter relating to this Code, they should seek it from the Clerk or their own legal adviser (but it is repeated that it is entirely their personal responsibility to comply with the provisions of this Code).

#### 4 General Obligations

- 4.1 Parish Councillors and Co-Opted members **must**:
  - (a) Treat Parish Councillors, co-opted members, officers, members of the public and service providers with courtesy and respect.

- (b) When involved in the decision making of the Council:
  - (i) ensure that they are aware of and comply with the requirements of the [Bribery Act 2010](#);
  - (ii) have regard to any advice provided to them by the Chief Financial Officer or Clerk pursuant to their statutory duties;
  - (iii) give reasons for decisions made in accordance with any legal requirements and/or reasonable requirements of the Council.
- (c) When using or authorising the use by others of the resources of the Council, use the resources properly and in accordance with the Council's relevant policies.
- (d) Have regard to the applicable [Local Authority Code of Publicity](#) under the Local Government Act 1986.

4.2 Parish Councillors and Co-Opted Members **must not**:

- (a) Engage in [bullying or intimidating behaviour](#) or behaviour which could be regarded as bullying or intimidation.
- (b) Do anything which may cause the Council to breach any of the equality enactments as defined in [section 33, Equality Act 2006](#).
- (c) Disclose information given to them in confidence or information acquired by them which they believe or are aware is of a confidential nature except where:
  - (i) they have the consent of a person authorised to give it;
  - (ii) they are required to do so by law;
  - (iii) the disclosure is made to a third party for the purpose of obtaining professional legal advice;
  - (iv) the disclosure is reasonable and in the public interest;
  - (v) the disclosure is made in good faith and in compliance with the reasonable requirements of the Council or its professional advisers.
- (d) Prevent another person from accessing information if that person is entitled to do so by law.
- (e) Improperly use knowledge gained solely as a result of their role as a Parish Councillor for the advancement of their Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.
- (f) Conduct themselves in a manner which could reasonably be regarded as bringing their office or the Council into disrepute.

## 5 Interests, Dispensations, Sensitive Interests and Bias

- 5.1 Parish Councillors **must** declare any interests (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, [Other Registrable Interests](#) and [Personal Interests](#)) that relate to their public duties and **must** take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way which promotes openness and transparency, including registering and declaring interests in a manner conforming with the procedures. Further guidance is contained within Appendix 3.

5.2 Parish Councillors who have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest may apply for a Dispensation to enable them to speak and/or vote at a [Meeting](#) on the specific grounds. If the Clerk agrees that an interest is a [Sensitive Interest](#) the Councillor **must** disclose its existence at a relevant Meeting but is not required to provide specific details (see Appendix 3). The Clerk shall also exclude the details of the Sensitive Interest from the published version of the Register of Interests.

## **6 Gifts and Hospitality**

Parish Councillors **must** disclose and record any [gift or hospitality](#) they are offered or receive in accordance with the Parish Councillors' Gifts and Hospitality Protocol.

## **7 Alleged breaches of this Code**

7.1 Any allegation that a Parish Councillor has breached this Code will initially be considered by West Berkshire Council's Monitoring Officer in consultation with one of the [Independent Persons](#). Where a matter is referred for investigation West Berkshire Council's Governance and Ethics Committee's Advisory Panel will consider the findings of the investigation. The Advisory Panel shall be chaired by an Independent Member and make recommendations to the Governance and Ethics Committee for final decision.

# Chieveley Parish Council

## Councillor's Gifts and Hospitality Protocol

### April 2017

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#### Introduction

This Protocol is intended to complement the [Parish Councillors' Code of Conduct](#). It offers guidance to [Parish Councillors](#) with regard to best practice and the need to preserve integrity and demonstrate good governance. It has been written to protect both individual Parish Councillors and the Parish Council itself. The intention of this Protocol is to ensure that the Council can demonstrate that no undue influence has been applied or could be said to have been applied by any supplier or anyone else dealing with the Council and its stewardship of public funds.

This Protocol adopts the definitions in [Appendix 1](#) to the Code.

This Protocol sets out Parish Councillors' obligations to declare any relevant gifts and hospitality which might be offered to or received by them in their [Capacity](#) as a Councillor or to their spouse or partner as a result of their relationship with the Councillor.

The corollary of this is that gifts and hospitality offered to a [councillor](#) in their private capacity, of whatever value, do not need to be registered at all. Further, this Protocol does not apply to the acceptance of any facilities or hospitality which may be provided to a councillor by the Council.

It is the Councillor's responsibility to ensure any gifts and hospitality received or offered to them or their spouse/ partner are declared to the Clerk in accordance with the agreed procedures.

Transparency is the issue: Parish Councillors should always consider whether any gifts or hospitality could be seen as being connected with their public role as a Councillor. It is public perception that matters.

A breach of this Protocol amounts to a breach of the Code and a complaint can be reported to the Monitoring Officer or the Governance and Ethics Committee and dealt with in accordance with the [process for alleged breached of the Code](#).

#### The Rules

- 1 A Parish Councillor or their spouse/ partner **must never**:
  - 1.1 accept a gift or hospitality as an inducement or reward for anything which they do as a Councillor; or
  - 1.2 accept a gift or hospitality which might be open to misinterpretation; or
  - 1.3 accept a gift or hospitality which puts them under an improper obligation; or
  - 1.4 solicit a gift or hospitality.
- 2 Prior to the acceptance of any hospitality with a value of £25 or more, a Councillor should whenever possible seek authorisation from the Clerk, and only if consent has been given should the Parish Councillor or their spouse/partner accept the hospitality.

- 3 A Parish Councillor **must** register every individual gift or item of hospitality over £25 in value that is offered to them and indicate whether or not it was accepted.
- 4 A Parish Councillor's registration of the gift or hospitality **must** be made within 28 days of the date of offer or receipt as the case may be.
- 5 Registration is made by a declaration in writing to the Clerk , preferably electronically (eg by email), and giving details of:
  - 5.1 the value (or estimated value) and details of the gift or hospitality offered or received;
  - 5.2 if the gift or hospitality has been accepted, the reason for that acceptance;
  - 5.3 whether to the Councillor's knowledge the donor of the gift has, or has had in the past, or is likely to have in the future, dealings with the Council.
- 6 A Councillor should be aware of serial givers or repeat offers of hospitality as these may indicate a pattern of behaviour that might result in a breach of the Code of Conduct.
- 7 An offer of a gift or hospitality that appears over-generous **must** be declined; it could be seen as an inducement to affect a Parish Council decision.
- 8 Even if all Parish Councillors, or a large number of them, are offered or receive the same gift or hospitality, they **must** each make individual notifications.

Please note that the press and public have the right to inspect gift and hospitality declarations as submitted (and that Officers cannot edit the declarations).

### **Guidance**

#### **Should a Parish Councillor accept gifts and hospitality?**

It is not sufficient just to register gifts or hospitality; a Parish Councillor **must** consider whether it is appropriate or sensible to accept them in the first place. The general test of caution is one of common sense and perception, ie would a reasonable member of the public question the appropriateness of hospitality or gifts offered to or received by the Councillor or their spouse/partner? If a Parish Councillor is concerned the acceptance could be misinterpreted they **must** decline it and declare it.

A Parish Councillor or their spouse/ partner **must never** solicit a gift or hospitality, or accept any gift or hospitality offered as an inducement or which puts them under any obligation.

Particular care must be taken in relation to gifts and hospitality offered by current or potential contractors for the Parish Council. In certain cases, the acceptance of a gift or hospitality from these sources could constitute a criminal offence, even if declared. If there is any suspicion that any offer is intended as an inducement, then the matter **must** be reported in accordance with established procedures.

The Bribery Act 2010 has offences of "bribing another person" (active bribery) and of "being bribed" (passive bribery). The offences consist of "promising, offering or giving" or "requesting, agreeing to receive or accepting an advantage (financial or otherwise)" in circumstances involving the improper performance of a relevant function or activity.

In the context of the Parish Council the relevant function or activity means a public activity which a reasonable person would expect to be performed in good faith, impartially or in a particular way by a person performing it in a position of trust. There is a maximum penalty of 10 years' imprisonment or an unlimited fine for these offences.

### **Must a Councillor register all gifts and hospitality that they are offered?**

A Parish Councillor **must** register any gift or hospitality worth £25 or more that they or their spouse/partner are offered, and whether it was accepted. Where the value of any gift or hospitality is under £25 a Parish Councillor **may** wish to declare receiving it.

### **What about gifts or hospitality that a Councillor is offered but did not accept?**

A Parish Councillor **must** register any offer of gifts and/or hospitality over £25 even if declined, since this protects both their position and that of the Council.

### **What is the value of the gift / hospitality?**

A Parish Councillor may have to estimate how much a gift or some hospitality is worth in their written declaration. It is suggested that they take a common sense approach, and consider how much they reasonably think it would cost a member of the public to buy the gift, or provide the hospitality in question. If as a result they estimate that the value is £25 or more, then the Councillor **must** declare it.

Where hospitality is concerned, a Parish Councillor can disregard catering on-costs and other overheads, eg staff and room hire. If the refreshments, of whatever kind, would cost £25 or more in a comparable establishment providing food of comparable quality, the Parish Councillor **must** register it.

If a Councillor is not certain whether the value is under £25, the safest course of action is to register it and give an approximate value.

### **What about gifts of low value?**

There is no requirement to declare gifts of a value of less than £25. However, in order to be transparent, if a Councillor or their spouse/ partner receive a series of related gifts which are all under £25, but together total above £25, then they **must** register them if they are from the same person. If the small gifts offered by or received from different persons are connected in some way, it is good practice to register them.

### **How does a Councillor register gifts and hospitality that they receive?**

A Parish Councillor **must** give Clerk written details about the gifts and hospitality they or their spouse/ partner are offered, preferably by email. The best advice is to get into the habit of registering things as soon as possible.

### **Which organisation does a Councillor make declarations to?**

A Parish Councillor **must** also consider that they might be offered gifts and hospitality in their capacity as the Council's representative on an outside body. It is a Councillor's responsibility to ensure that they declare any gifts and hospitality in accordance with that organisation's rules and procedures.

### **How to deal with the issue of when gifts or hospitality are offered or received in different capacities or where there are overlapping roles**

Parish Councillors need only declare gifts and hospitality to the Clerk where they are offered or received in their Capacity as a Chieveley Parish Councillor.

If a Parish Councillor receives gifts or hospitality in another capacity, eg arising from holding another public office, they should register in accordance with whatever code is in place for that other body. If a particular body does not actually require the councillor to register anything, then they do not need to do anything in respect of the receipt of a gift or hospitality directly attributed to their role within that organisation.

If the Parish Councillor is not sure what capacity they or their spouse/partner was offered or received something in, provided they declare the gift or hospitality *at least once* with the body that appears to be the most appropriate, they will have fulfilled their duties. The overriding purpose is public transparency.

### **What happens if a Parish Councillor does not register a gift or hospitality?**

Failure to notify the Clerk of the offer or receipt of a gift or hospitality with a value of £25 or more is a breach of this Protocol and consequently also a breach of the Code of Conduct. An alleged breach of the Code can be the subject of a complaint to the Monitoring Officer or Governance and Ethics Committee which could result in the matter becoming the subject of an investigation.

### **Gifts which are more likely to be considered acceptable**

It is the responsibility of the Parish Councillor to decide whether or not to declare gifts and hospitality.

The Parish Council has however agreed that in appropriate circumstances Members of the Parish Council may choose to accept gifts and hospitality in the following circumstances:

- Civic hospitality provided by another authority;
- Modest refreshments offered or received in the ordinary course of duties as a Councillor eg at formal meetings, training or working meetings or when in contact with constituents;
- Tickets for sporting or cultural events which are sponsored or supported by the Council;
- Small gifts of low intrinsic value branded with the name of the company or organisation making the gift (eg pens, diaries, calendars etc);
- Modest souvenir gifts from another public body given on the occasion of a visit by or to that body;
- Hospitality offered or received in the course of an external visit or meeting which has been authorised by the Parish Council. In such cases the arrangements should be made by Officers rather than the Parish Councillors who will be benefiting and hospitality should be commensurate with the nature of the visit; and
- Other unsolicited gifts where it is impracticable to return them or where refusal would in the circumstances cause offence. In such cases the Councillor may wish to pass the gift a Parish Council's charity.

Offers/receipt of gifts and hospitality of these types are still subject to the requirements of this Protocol regarding the notification to the Clerk of gifts and hospitality of greater than £25 in value. The appropriateness of acceptance must always be considered beforehand. It must also be noted that the fact that a gift or hospitality does not have to be notified under this Protocol does not necessarily mean that it is appropriate to accept it.

**Will the register be open to the public?**

The register is available to the public as the register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests is. It is open for inspection at the Chieveley Parish Council Office by prior appointment.

**Further assistance**

It is each Parish Councillor's own individual responsibility to observe this Protocol, but the Clerk will help where possible. If a Parish Councillor has any questions at all please contact the Clerk at the Chieveley Parish Council Office or by email at [chieveley.pc@btinternet.com](mailto:chieveley.pc@btinternet.com)

# Chieveley Parish Council

## Councillor's Code of Conduct - Appendix 1

### Definitions

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This appendix provides definitions to some of the words and phrases used in the Code of Conduct and its Appendices.

**'Bullying or intimidating behaviour'** means offensive, intimidating, malicious, insulting or humiliating behaviour which attempts to undermine, hurt or humiliate an individual or group.

*(Such behaviour can have a damaging effect on a victim's confidence, capability and health.*

*Bullying conduct can involve behaving in an abusive or threatening way, or making allegations about people in public, in the company of their colleagues, through the press or in blogs, [but within the scope of the Code of Conduct].*

*It may happen once or be part of a pattern of behaviour, although minor isolated incidents are unlikely to be considered bullying. It is also unlikely that a councillor will be found guilty of bullying when both parties have contributed to a breakdown in relations.)*

**'Capacity'** – a Councillor or Co-Opted Member is acting in their Capacity as such when they are:

- acting as a representative of the Council; or
- participating in a [Meeting](#); or at briefing meetings with officers and members of the public; or
- corresponding with the authority other than in their private capacity.

**'Council'** means Chieveley Parish Council.

**'councillor'** means a Parish Councillor.

**'Councillor'** means a councillor where they are acting in their Capacity.

**'Co-Opted Member'** means a person who is not a councillor but who:

- is a member of any committee or sub-committee of the Council; or
- is a member of, and represents the Council on, any joint committee or joint sub-committee of the Council.

**'Disclosable Pecuniary Interest'** has the meaning given to it in the Act (see Appendix 3).

**'Dispensation'** means

**'Independent Person'** means a person appointed by West Berkshire Council in accordance with the Act who is consulted before West Berkshire Council makes any decision on an allegation of a breach of this Code.

**'Meeting'** means any meeting of the Council;

whether or not the press and public are excluded from the meeting in question by virtue of a resolution of Parish Councillors.

**‘Monitoring Officer’** means the Monitoring Officer of West Berkshire Council (*who has the specific duty to ensure that the Council, its Officers, and its Parish Councillors, maintain the highest standards of conduct in all they do*).

**‘Other Registrable Interest’** has the meaning given to it in Appendix 3.

**‘Personal Interest’** has the meaning given to it in Appendix 3.

**‘Relevant Person’** has the meaning given to it in Appendix 3.

**‘Sensitive Interest’** has the meaning given to it in Appendix 3.

# **Chieveley Parish Council**

## **Councillor's Code of Conduct - Appendix 2**

### **The Ten Principles of Public Life ('the Nolan Principles')**

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#### **Selflessness**

Parish Councillors should serve only the public interest and should never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person.

#### **Honesty and Integrity**

Parish Councillors should not place themselves in situations where their honesty and integrity may be questioned, should not behave improperly, and should on all occasions avoid the appearance of such behaviour.

#### **Objectivity**

Parish Councillors should make decisions on merit, including when making appointments, awarding contracts, or recommending individuals for rewards or benefits.

#### **Accountability**

Parish Councillors should be accountable to the public for their actions and the manner in which they carry out their responsibilities, and should co-operate fully and honestly with any scrutiny appropriate to their particular office.

#### **Openness**

Parish Councillors should be as open as possible about their actions and those of their authority, and should be prepared to give reasons for those actions.

#### **Personal judgement**

Parish Councillors may take account of the views of others, including their political groups, but should reach their own conclusions on the issues before them and act in accordance with those conclusions.

#### **Respect for others**

Parish Councillors should promote equality by not discriminating against any person, and by treating people with respect, regardless of their race, age, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability. They should respect the impartiality and integrity of the authority's statutory officers and its other employees.

#### **Duty to uphold the law**

Parish Councillors should uphold the law and, on all occasions, act in accordance with the trust that the public is entitled to place in them.

#### **Stewardship**

Parish Councillors should do whatever they are able to do to ensure that their authorities use their resources prudently, and in accordance with the law.

#### **Leadership**

Parish Councillors should promote and support these principles by leadership, and by example, and should act in a way that secures or preserves public confidence.

# Chieveley Parish Council

## Councillor's Code of Conduct - Appendix 3

### Interests

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#### Introduction

Parish Parish Councillors and Co-Opted Members **must** declare any interests that relate to their public duties and **must** take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way which promotes openness and transparency, including registering and declaring interests in a manner conforming to the procedures.

There are three types of interest:

- Disclosable Pecuniary Interests
- Other Registrable Interests
- Personal Interests

Parish Parish Councillors should also always consider whether any interest could be seen as being prejudicial to their decision making as a councillor. It is public perception that matters.

#### **1 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs)**

- 1.1 [Schedule 2 of the Relevant Authorities \(Disclosable Pecuniary Interests\) Regulations 2012](#) lists the disclosable pecuniary interests specified for the purpose of the Act. This list is in [Appendix 3a](#).
- 1.2 The requirements to register interests apply to either an interest of the councillor or an interest of the councillor's spouse, civil partner or partner. However, the councillor does not have to differentiate between their own or their spouse/civil partner/partners' interests or to name them.

#### **2 How to declare a DPI**

- 2.1 Parish Parish Councillors **must** notify the Clerk of any DPI, within 28 days of taking up office or becoming aware of their interest. As with the Code, the requirement to disclose DPIs applies to Co-Opted Members as well as to Parish Parish Councillors.
- 2.2 Any interests **must** also be disclosed at a Meeting if they are relevant to the matters under discussion.
- 2.3 The Act makes participation in such matters a criminal offence if the Councillor has a DPI.

#### **3 Other Registrable Interests**

- 3.1 Parish Parish Councillors are required by law to register Other Registrable Interests.
- 3.2 An Other Registrable Interest is one which a member of the public who knows all the relevant facts relating to it would reasonably consider that interest is so significant that it is likely to prejudice or influence the councillor's judgement of the public interest.

3.3 These relate to:

- (a) any body of which a councillor is a member or in a position of general control or management and to which they are appointed or nominated by their authority;
- (b) any body exercising functions of a public nature; directed to charitable purposes; or one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union), of which they are a member or in a position of general control or management;
- (c) any easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not carry with it a right for the councillor (alone or jointly with another) to occupy the land or to receive income.

**4 How to declare an Other Registrable Interest**

4.1 Parish Parish Councillors **must** notify the Clerk of any Other Registrable Interests, within 28 days of taking up office or becoming aware of their interest. As with the Code, the requirement to disclose Other Registrable Interests applies to Co-Opted Members in addition to Parish Parish Councillors.

4.2 A Councillor may participate in decision making relating to their Other Registrable Interests to make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to the business, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the Meeting for the same purpose. The Councillor **must** leave the Meeting immediately after making representations, answering questions or giving evidence.

4.3 Subject to the Councillor disclosing the interest at the Meeting, they may attend a Meeting and vote on a matter where they have an Other Registrable Interest that relates to the functions of their authority in respect of:

Curridge Playground Land, ;Housing Site & Allocations or consultation similar

- (a) statutory sick pay under Part XI of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992, where they are in receipt of, or are entitled to the receipt of, such pay;
- (b) an allowance, payment or indemnity given to Parish Councillors;
- (c) any ceremonial honour given to Parish Councillors; and
- (d) setting council tax or a precept under the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

**5 When an Other Registrable Interest becomes a Personal Interest**

5.1 The Parish Council may have dual-hatted Councillors who are also District Councillors. Membership of a body exercising functions of a public nature, such as a District Council, is an Other Registrable Interest and usually restricts a Councillor's participation in decision making. A Councillor would however be permitted to participate in decision making regarding Planning applications because their membership of parish council is unlikely to prejudice or influence the Councillor's judgement of the planning application. In this instance the Councillor should follow the rules on how to declare a Personal Interest.

- 5.2 Conversely, there might be times when a councillor's membership of a District Council is likely to prejudice or influence the Councillor's judgement of the planning application. The Councillor should seek advice from the Clerk if they are unsure.

## **6 Personal Interests**

- 6.1 A Councillor has a Personal Interest in any decision of their authority where the interest might reasonably be regarded as affecting their well-being or financial position or that of a [Relevant Person](#) to a greater extent than the majority of other council tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the electoral division or ward
- 6.2 A Relevant Person is:
- (a) a parent, grandparent, sibling, child, aunt, uncle, cousin (or partner/spouse of any of those people) by birth or by marriage; or
  - (b) any person or body who employs or has appointed a Relevant Person, any firm in which they are a partner, or any company of which they are directors;
  - (c) any person or body in whom a Relevant Person has a beneficial interest in a class of securities exceeding the nominal value of £25,000.00; or
  - (d) any body of a type described in Other Registrable Interests.

## **7 How to declare a Personal Interest**

- 7.1 Where a Councillor has a Personal Interest in any business of the Council a Councillor needs to disclose to the meeting the existence and nature of that interest when they address the meeting on that business.
- 7.2 Personal interests do not need to be declared to the Clerk, but Parish Councillors should seek advice if they are not sure what type of interest they have.

## **8 When a Personal Interest becomes an Other Registrable Interest**

- 8.1 As outlined in [the Code](#), a situation may arise where a member of the public who knows all the relevant facts relating to it would reasonably consider that an interest is so significant that it is likely to prejudice or influence the Councillor's judgement of the public interest. In that circumstance their interest would be considered to be an Other Registrable Interest.
- 8.2 A Councillor would have an Other Registrable Interest in a planning application that their parent had submitted because that Relevant Person is likely to be affected by the application to a greater extent than the majority of the inhabitants of the parish. A DPI would not cover this aspect as they relate to Councillor and their spouse/partner only. The existence of a close family tie would mean that the public might consider that it would prejudice the Councillor's view when considering the application.
- 8.3 In this instance the Councillor should follow the rules on how to declare an Other Registrable Interest.

## **9 Register of Interests**

The Council will maintain a register of Parish Councillors' interests, and make it available to the public on their website.

## **10 Sensitive Interests**

- 10.1 Where a councillor is concerned that the disclosure of the details of an interest (whether a DPI or Other Interest which the councillor is required to disclose) at a Meeting or on the Register of Members' Interests, and such disclosure would lead to the councillor or a person associated with them being subject to violence or intimidation, the councillor may request the Clerk agree that such interest is a Sensitive Interest.
- 10.2 If the Clerk agrees that the interest is a Sensitive Interest the councillor **must** still disclose the existence of the interest at a relevant Meeting but the councillor is not required to provide the details of the Sensitive Interest during the meeting. The Clerk shall also exclude the details of the Sensitive Interest from the published version of the Register of Members' Interests.

# Chieveley Parish Council

## Councillor's Code of Conduct - Appendix 3a

### Prescribed Definitions for Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

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The following table replicates [Schedule 2 of the Relevant Authorities \(Disclosable Pecuniary Interests\) Regulations 2012](#) and gives the prescribed definitions for Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Prescribed description</i>
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the Council) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by a Councillor in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of a councillor. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	Any contract which is made between the Councillor's partner/ spouse (or a body in which the Councillor's partner/ spouse has a beneficial interest) and the Council— (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the Council.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the Council for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to the Councillor's knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the relevant authority; and (b) the tenant is a body in which the Councillor's partner/ spouse has a beneficial interest.
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where— (a) that body (to the Councillor's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the Council; and (b) either— (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the Councillor's partner/ spouse has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.



